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| AUTHOR | Alleman, Janet; Brophy, Jere |
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ABSTRACT

Most social studies textbooks lack the content K-3 students need to develop basic social understandings, despite the fact that this is one of the goals of most state and district curriculum guides. This book offers an alternative/enhancement to the textbook, since it provides units structured around powerful ideas, developed in depth with real-life applications, creating a more substantive program than any textbook can support. The book, the third in a three volume series, presents instructional units on cultural universals for the primary grades. It focuses on childhood (14 lessons), money (13 lessons), and government (12 lessons). The volume helps teachers concentrate on content that is basic and familiar to students, addressing fundamental aspects of the human condition and connecting with experience-based knowledge. The book's units help teachers impart knowledge about the cultural universals unfamiliar to students; develop connections to help students transform scattered bits of information into a network of integrated knowledge; and guide students in applying this knowledge to their lives outside of school. Includes handouts. Contains 26 references. (BT)

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